

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD Tax Ratification Election



At the June 17, 2013 Board meeting, the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD Board of Trustees approved a Maintenance and Operations (M & O) tax rate that is above the maximum rate allowed without voter approval. This M & O rate must be approved by voters before it can be adopted by the school district. The Board adopted an order calling for a Tax Ratification Election (TRE) to be held on Saturday, September 7, 2013.

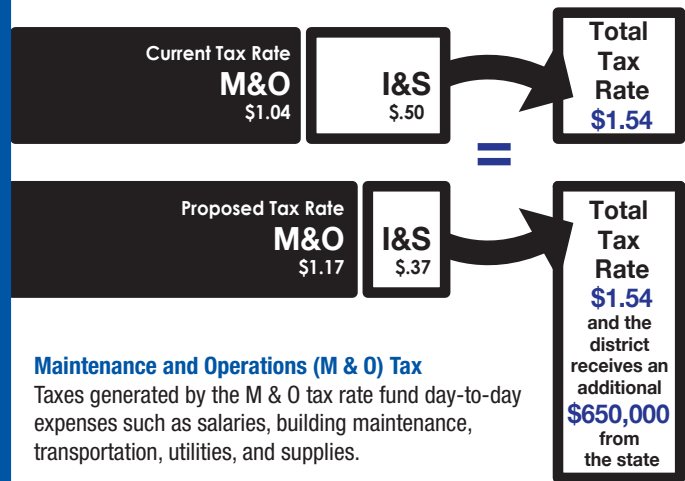
The passage of the TRE coupled with a resolution passed by the EM-S ISD Board of Trustees would effectively move 13¢ from the Interest and Sinking Fund (I & S) to our Maintenance and Operations Fund (M & O). This shift would generate approximately \$650,000 in additional state funding for the school district with no increase in tax rate for the EM-S ISD taxpayers.

What is a TRE?

A district that adopts a tax rate above its maximum M & O tax rate must hold a Tax Ratification Election (TRE) to provide voters the ability to ratify the higher rate. If a majority of the votes are cast in favor of the proposition, the tax rate for the current year is adopted by the Board. If the proposition is not approved, then the Board may not adopt a tax rate for the current year that exceeds the maximum rate.

How will the TRE affect my taxes?

No matter the outcome of the TRE, the tax rate for taxpayers in EM-S ISD will remain at \$1.54 per \$100 of property value. If the TRE is approved, the shift in the M & O and I & S tax rates will generate an additional \$650,000 for the district. If the TRE is not approved, the tax rate will remain at \$1.54 and no additional funding will be created.



Election Day | Saturday September 7

Early Voting August 21 - September 3



The wording for the ballot for the Tax Ratification Election is prescribed by law. The ballot reads:

“Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.67 per \$100 valuation in Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District for the current year, a rate that is \$.13 higher per \$100 valuation than the school district rollback tax rate.”

Why does the ballot show a tax rate of \$1.67 when everything else says the tax rate will remain at \$1.54?

Law requires to word the ballot as it reads above. The ballot shows a total tax rate of \$1.67, which is an increase of \$.13 in the Maintenance and Operations (M & O) tax rate. However, the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution at the June 17 Board meeting that should the TRE pass, the Interest and Sinking (I & S) tax rate will be lowered by \$.13 to offset the increase in the M & O rate. This shift will keep the tax rate at \$1.54 for the 2013-2014 school year.

Early Voting

August 21 - September 3

Location

EM-S ISD Administration
Building 6 Training Room
1200 Old Decatur Road

Election Day

Saturday, September 7
EM-S ISD Administration
Building 6 Training Room

Mobile Voting Sites at
all three high schools during
early voting.

Dates and times listed at
www.emsisd.com/TRE

Visit www.emsisd.com/TRE for additional information.